



# Juniata County School District

146 WEATHERBY WAY,  
MIFFLINTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 17059  
TELEPHONE (717) 436-2111

September 2020

Dear Parents:

We are pleased to share this packet of parent materials with you. Included are: Parent Involvement Policy, Parent Capacity Plan, and Schoolwide Letter.

These are important for the Schoolwide Title I program. We encourage you to carefully read these and prepare any questions you may have for our Schoolwide Title teachers. We are always interested in learning whether the materials we send home are helpful for our parents. Our Schoolwide Title I teachers are ready and willing to meet with you to discuss your child's needs and to provide suggestions as to how you can work with your child at home.

We would also encourage you to participate on our Schoolwide Title I Parent Advisory Council. Parents on this council have the opportunity to review forms and to plan activities to involve parents and their children using Title I parent involvement funds. You may contact your Schoolwide Title I teacher if you are interested in participating.

We would also share with you our Juniata County website, <https://www.jcsdk12.org/o/jcsd>, which has information about our Schoolwide Title I program.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Christie Holderman  
Federal Programs Coordinator

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## **TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY**

### **Juniata Elementary School & JUNIATA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

In accordance with Section 1118 of Title I, Juniata Elementary School shall in conjunction with the school district:

- Convene an annual meeting (Open House and/Family Fun Night) for Title I parents to inform parents of their participation in Title I, the Title I parent involvement requirements and their rights to be involved;
- Offer a flexible number of meetings;
- Involve parents in an organized, ongoing and timely way, in the planning, review and improvement of programs under Title I.
- Provide Title I parents timely information about Title I programs; a description of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of assessments used to measure student progress and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet; and, if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any suggestions as soon as practicably possible;

### **Shared Responsibility for High Student Academic Achievement**

Juniata Elementary School served under Title I shall jointly develop with parents of all Title I students a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's academic standards.

### **Building Capacity for Involvement**

Juniata Elementary School and the Local Education Agency (LEA) shall conduct the following activities to ensure the effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents and the community to improve student academic achievement:

- Provide assistance to Title I parents, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the State's academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, Title I requirements, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children;
- Provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement;
- Educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents and in how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school;

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- To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with Head Start, and Even Start, and conduct other activities that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children;
- Ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

## **Other activities**

Juniata Elementary School and the LEA may also conduct the following activities, as appropriate, to ensure the effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents and the community to improve student academic achievement:

- Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training;
- Provide necessary literacy training from Title I if the LEA has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training;
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including transportation and child-care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- Arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with Title I children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school;
- Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parent involvement;
- Establish a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in programs supported under Title I;
- Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities;
- Provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Title I as parents may request.

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## **Parent Capacity Plan**

The Juniata County School District is committed to building the parent capacity for its Title I programs. This plan outlines steps the school district will take to meet the 6 requirements of building parent capacity.

1. Provide assistance to Title I parents, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the State's academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, Title I requirements, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
2. Provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology as appropriate to foster parental involvement.
3. Educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents and in how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and the school.
4. To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with Head Start and Even Start, and conduct other activities, such as Kindergarten Screenings and Orientations that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.
5. Ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and to the extent practicable in a language the parents can understand.
6. Provide full opportunities for participation of Limited English Proficiency (LEP) students, students with disabilities, and parents of migrant children.

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## **WHAT IS A SCHOOLWIDE TITLE I PROGRAM?**

Juniata County School District is now a Schoolwide Title I School District

Juniata County School District now operates Title I Schoolwide programs in all elementary buildings. We were previously considered Targeted Assistance Title I. A Title I Schoolwide program is a method of delivering title I services in eligible schools. It allows the school to address the educational needs of students living in a community with an economic disadvantaged elementary student population of 40% or greater. As a Title I Schoolwide program, our Title services can provide comprehensive strategies for improving the entire school population so every student achieves high levels of academic proficiency.

Schoolwide programs have the latitude to determine how to organize their operations and allocate the multiple funding sources available to them. They do not have to identify particular children as eligible for services. Schoolwide programs can use all allocated funds to increase the amount and quality of learning time. In this way, they can embrace a high-quality curriculum according to a comprehensive plan that ensures all children meet the state's challenging academic standards.

Schoolwide programs serve all children in the school. All staff, resources and classes are part of the overall Schoolwide program. The purpose is to generate high levels of academic achievement in core subject areas for all students, especially those most in need. The purpose is achieved through:

- High quality instruction
- Programming based on the use of evidence based research
- Strategies and methods to improve teacher quality and professional development.
- Consolidated use of funds.

Some students simply need more time and direct, explicit instruction in order to succeed. Classroom teachers and Title I staff will utilize data from Title I assessments, benchmark assessments, and classroom work to determine those showing the greatest need. Students showing the greatest need are serviced first.

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## **How are parents involved?**

- Parents are notified about Title I services.
- Parents and teachers sign a compact that indicates goals and shared responsibilities of the school and parents for student success.
- Parents are encouraged to participate in school activities and meetings.
- Parents may participate in Title I meetings and learning opportunities.
- Parents are provided Title I information via newsletters, conferences, and the parent involvement plan.

## **What can parents do?**

- Share a love of learning and set a good example by reading, practicing math facts, playing with money (identify coins/make change), writing letters and/or lists, comparing prices, etc.
- Make learning fun by playing educational games, visiting the library, and listening to and talking with your child.
- Show interest in your child's school day by asking specific questions and praising effort and improvement.

This year as a Schoolwide Title I program, all families will receive the compact letter, which is attached. As a building, we welcome your ideas and feedback about our Title I services. We are looking forward to delivering our Title I services schoolwide! This will be a great benefit to our students.